



03500.015295

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: T. Pham
Yasuhiro KUJIRAI	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2121
Appln. No.: 09/828,913	)	
	:	Notice of Allowance: January 24, 2005
Filed: April 10, 2001	)	Confirmation No 7195
	:	
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING	)	
SYSTEM, INFORMATION	:	
PROCESSING DEVICE,	)	
CONTROL METHOD THEREOF,	:	April 19, 2005
MEMORY MEDIA HAVING	)	
STORED PROGRAMS THEREOF	:	
AND PROGRAM THEREOF	)	

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Comment on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Sir:

The Statement of Reasons for Allowance accompanying the January 24, 2005 Notice of Allowance states that

None of the references taken either alone or in combination discloses a method and device for copyright management which are capable of communicating via a network having all the claimed features of applicant's instant invention, specifically including: determining whether or not second copyright data related to the output data should be obtained from a copyright management apparatus in accordance with the information related to the effective limit date included in the first copyright data. From this

determination result, a second copyright data is obtained from the copyright management apparatus. Additionally, the system processes the output data using one of an output condition included in the second copyright data or an output condition included in the first copyright data which obtained in accordance with the determination result.”

But, independent Claims 1, 9, 17, and 18 do not recite that a system processes the output data using one of an output condition included in the second copyright data or an output condition included in the first copyright data which obtained in accordance with the determination result.

Rather, independent Claims 1 and 9 recite “output processing means for executing output processing of said output data by utilizing one of (i) an output condition included in said second copyright data obtained by said second copyright data obtaining means and (ii) the output condition included in said first copyright data obtained by said first copyright data obtaining means, in accordance with the determination result by said determination means.”

Also, independent Claims 17 and 18 recite instead “an output processing step of executing output processing of said output data by utilizing one of (i) an output condition included in said second copyright data obtained in said second copyright data obtaining step, and (ii) the output condition included in said first copyright data obtained in said first copyright data obtaining step in accordance with the determination result of said determination step.”

In addition, Claim 18 does not relate to a method and device for copyright management. Rather, Claim 18 relates to a memory medium storing a computer-readable

program for controlling an information processing apparatus capable of communicating output data via a network.

Nevertheless, these claims are allowable for the unique combination of features recited therein.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian L. Klock", written over a horizontal line.

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